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Smallpox in Colorado.

Place.	Date.	Number cases.	Number deaths.
Boulder.....	May 29 and June 1.....	2	0
Colorado Springs.....	April 28 to May 17.....	12	4
Cripple Creek.....	April 9 to June 1.....	4	0
Denver.....	April 3 to July 21.....	51	4
El Paso County.....	May 11 and May 13.....	2	0
Engleville.....	April 13 to April 26.....	3	0
Evergreen.....	July 6.....	1	0
Fowler.....	May 28.....	1	0
Fruitdale.....	March 27.....	1	0
Gardner.....	May — to —.....	2	0
Greeley.....	May 26 to June 23.....	6	0
Gunnison County.....	May 7 to May 28.....	3	0
Lake City.....	June 15 to August 10.....	13	4
La Veta and vicinity.....	March 25 to May 29.....	48	12
Leadville.....	June 20 to July 13.....	14	2
Pueblo.....	April 18 to June 10.....	11	3
Pueblo County.....	May and June.....	36	4
Salida.....	June 15.....	1	0
Silver Plume.....	April 16.....	1	1
South Canon.....	May 20 to June 9.....	14	1
Trinidad.....	June 10 to June 17.....	4	0
Victor.....	April and May.....	18	0
Villa Grove.....	April 22.....	1	0
Walsenburg and vicinity.....	April 11 to May 5..... March 25 to July 21.....	9	1
Total.....		258	36

Respectfully, yours,

G. E. TYLER, M. D.,
Secretary, Colorado State Board of Health.

REPORTS FROM THE MEXICAN BORDER.

Inspection along the Rio Grande River.

Eagle Pass, September 4.—I have the honor to submit the following, it being a report of the trip made by me to Presidio and other points on the Rio Grande River, in order that proper precautions be taken to prevent the spread of an epidemic of smallpox, which exists along the border in the vicinity of the subport of Presidio, Tex.

I arrived, in accordance with orders from Collector Drake, at Marfa, Tex., on Friday, August 4, and was met at the train by Mr. Drake, who informed me that I was to go immediately to Shafter and Presidio and investigate the places and the country about them, hence I took the stage for Shafter (the stage leaving just one hour after the arrival of the train) that morning. After traveling 50 miles over a rough and mountainous country in a stage drawn by 4 broncho mules, I reached Shafter, when I immediately called upon the State quarantine inspector who was stationed there temporarily. From this gentleman I learned that he then had under his charge 18 cases of smallpox, that the disease was of a varioloid type and that all of the cases were in the pesthouse. No treatment was instituted for these cases, the Mexicans (all of the cases were among the Mexican population) desiring to treat themselves. Hygienic precautions were not taken regarding the sick, but patients were allowed to get well the best way they could, the only requirement being that the sick individuals were not under any circumstances to leave the pesthouse, and that no persons were allowed entry to the pesthouse except the physician in charge and nurses. When a patient is discharged from the pesthouse, he or she is given new wearing apparel, the old garments being burned. In this way the disease is kept under fairly good control.

Finding that I could do nothing in Shafter, the State of Texas having

the smallpox patients in charge at that place, I left the next day for Presidio, when upon arrival there I was met by the United States sanitary guards, Marine-Hospital Service (appointed on July 30, 1899). Finding that nothing could be done on that day, and being a little weary from my double stage ride, I retired early.

From August 6 to August 11 I spent making house-to-house inspections, and vaccinating all individuals needing same. During this time I discovered some 40 cases of smallpox and vaccinated some 300 people, all in the vicinity of Presidio. Besides this, I made several trips into Presidio del Norte, Mexico, and learned of many cases of smallpox in and around this place. I did not personally inspect these cases as I was in Mexican territory.

Very few people in Presidio del Norte have been vaccinated, the majority believing that smallpox was far preferable, as an attack of smallpox to them is a good omen, showing that God is kind in that He gives them the disease in order to clean their souls and bodies of sin, etc. I put on a quarantine against Presidio del Norte and permitted no person to come to this side of the river unless (a) they had health certificates from the presidente (mayor) of said Mexican city (the certificates stating that the individual had not been in any way exposed to smallpox), (b) and had been successfully vaccinated during the past year, or were immune by reason of a previous attack of the disease, (c) or would submit to vaccination.

On August 11 I received an order from Mr. Drake to "Visit all Mexican towns on the border;" hence, after having instructed the guards in vaccinating, I hired a horse, and, together with 1 of the guards, who acted as guide, interpreter, etc., I started on the roughest trip it has ever been my fortune to accomplish, said trip being a ride of about 500 miles on horseback through a mountainous country, over trails that seemed impossible for a horse to climb or slide down, and where houses were from 20 to 50 miles apart. At night we encamped in the open air, cooked our own meals, hobbled our horses, and in a region which abounded with every form of poisonous insects, etc., from an alecran to a rattlesnake, and with the melodious notes of the coyote as a hypnotic, we rolled up in our blankets and slept.

In twelve days the trip was finished, many little towns and settlements having been visited and smallpox found all along the river for a distance of 200 miles. Upon my return to Presidio I stationed the guards at the most frequented crossings and left orders for them to ride from 15 to 20 miles daily when the occasion justified same.

With only 10 men to patrol the river this great distance, the Service is doing admirably, and it is my belief that the disease will gain no further ground in this country as no one is allowed to leave the border without a certificate of health from one of the guards.

Because of the fact that river crossings are mostly situated at little towns the guards can accomplish a great deal. Were it not for the location of the river crossings the present number of guards would be inadequate; as it is now, the force is quite sufficient.

Were it not for the establishment of a proper quarantine along the border, the chances for the spread of smallpox to railroad connections would have been very great. As it is now, it is practically impossible for anyone to leave the border without a proper certificate of health. Should smallpox reach any railroad town between San Antonio and El Paso, the ravages of the disease would be felt over the whole State.

Respectfully, yours,

LEA HUME.

Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

El Paso, Tex., August 27, 1899.—I have the honor to report that during the week ended August 26, 1899, there was no arrival of passengers from Tampico, Mexico, and but 1 passenger from Vera Cruz, with proper certificate, and his baggage was marked "disinfected."

Respectfully, yours,

E. ALEXANDER,
Sanitary Inspector, U. S. M. H. S.

El Paso, Tex., September 3, 1899.—I have the honor to report that during the week ended September 2, 1899, there arrived on the Mexican Central Railroad 3 destitute laborers from Tampico, Mexico, only four days absent from that city. I detained them at Juarez and provided for their meals. One passenger arrived from Vera Cruz with certificate seven hours ahead of the limited time, being in perfect health and having only the means to reach his place of destination, Denver, Colo. I let him pass. I disinfected 1 package from Vera Cruz, addressed to Hamburg, Germany.

Respectfully, yours,

E. ALEXANDER,
Sanitary Inspector, U. S. M. H. S.

Laredo, Tex., August 30, 1899.—I have the honor to submit the following report for week ended August 26, 1899:

August 20: Refused entry to a person from Tampico, who had a certificate stating that he had been there on the 14th instant. This person entered August 24.

August 24: Refused entry to a person from the City of Mexico on account of insufficient evidence of not being from infected point. Refused entry to 5 persons from the City of Mexico for want of evidence as to previous whereabouts.

August 25: Received a telegram from United States Marine Hospital Service inspector at Mexico that the persons from there were noninfected and they were allowed to enter on the 25th instant.

The persons refused entry at the international footbridge are persons said to be from Monterey or beyond that point and who have no evidence of their whereabouts for the previous ten days before presenting for inspection. They are persons who get off the train at Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, to possibly avoid inspection while on the train at the International Railroad Bridge. I have 2 guards to meet this train in Mexico. One goes on day duty at the footbridge and the other inspects outgoing trains from Laredo, Tex. In that manner I have a double inspection. I also personally inspect the trains leaving Laredo, Tex., north and east, as well as trains from Mexico.

Respectfully, yours,

H. J. HAMILTON,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of international footbridge and ferry for the week ended August 25, 1899: Inspected and passed at footbridge, 2,545; refused entry and returned, 21; total inspected, 2,567; inspected and passed at the ferry, 950. The above include 17 immigrants.

Respectfully, yours,

H. J. HAMILTON,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

Laredo, Tex., September 3, 1899.—I have the honor to submit the following report for the week ended September 2, 1899:

At the international foot and tramway bridge, inspected and passed, 2,209; refused entry, 7; total inspected, 2,216. The above include 27 immigrants.

At the international ferry, inspected and passed, 958; Mexican National Railroad passengers from City of Mexico, 59; San Luis Potosi, 16; Saltillo, 20; Monterey, 47; other points, 49; total, 191. Passengers listed from other points are, with very few exceptions, poor Mexicans from points close to Laredo. No persons from points beyond the City of Mexico have presented during the week for entry.

Respectfully, yours,

H. J. HAMILTON,

Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

Smallpox in the United States as reported to the Surgeon-General United States Marine-Hospital Service, June 30 to September 15, 1899.

[For reports received from January 1 to June 30, 1899, see PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS for June 30.]

Places.	Date.	Cases.	Deaths.	Remarks.
California:				
Oakland.....	June 3-June 24...	2	0	
San Diego.....	June 1-June 30...	2	1	
Total for the State.....		4	1	
Connecticut:				
Stamford.....	July 20.....	1		
Florida:				
Jacksonville.....	July 1-Sept. 2...	7		
Gadsden County.....	July 1-July 31...	18		
Hillsboro County.....	April 10-July 10...	35		
Jackson County.....	July 1-July 31...	1		
Lake County.....	do.....	1		
Leon County.....	do.....	4		
Marion County.....	do.....	3		
Pasco County.....	do.....	5		
Total for the State.....		74		
Georgia:				
Brooks County.....	Aug. 5-Aug. 30...	2	1	
Montgomery County.....	July 15-Aug. 10...	31		
Savannah.....	June 3-July 27...	7		
Total for the State.....		40		
Illinois:				
Chicago.....	June 20-July 1...	3	0	
Indiana:				
Clark County.....	July 1-July 31...	1		
Lake County.....	do.....	1		
Total for the State.....		2		
Kansas:				
Kansas City.....	June 10-June 17...	2		
Kentucky:				
Leslie County.....	Aug. 17.....	104		
Louisville.....	June 23-Aug. 31...	16	0	
Total for the State.....		120		
Louisiana:				
New Orleans.....	June 17-Aug. 26...	14	0	
Shreveport.....	do.....	3	0	Doubtful.
Total for the State.....		17	0	
Maryland:				
Baltimore.....	June 18-July 15...	18	0	
Steelton.....	June 28.....	14		
Total for the State.....		32		
Massachusetts:				
Boston.....	June 27-Sept. 2...	9	3	
Everett.....	Aug. 7.....	1		
Fall River.....	June 27-Aug. 26...	2		
Roxbury.....	Aug. 30.....	2		
Total for the State.....		14	3	